

Message Text

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62

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 /039 W
----- 114974

R 110821Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1984
INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, ICFTU
SUBJ: ACTIVITIES OF ARO

REF: A. STATE 016912; B. NEW DELHI 1714

1. BACKGROUND. IN THE PAST, SINGAPORE'S NATIONAL TRADES UNION CONGRESS

(NTUC) HAS BEEN FAIRLY ACTIVE IN ICFTU/ARO ACTIVITIES. NTUC SECRETARY GENERAL DEVAN NAIR IS ARO VICE PRESIDENT. NTUC HOSTED AN ARO SEMINAR ON TRADE UNION RESEARCH IN MAY 1974. THE SEMINAR RECOMMENDED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A RESEARCH CENTER AT ARO HEADQUARTERS

IN NEW DELHI.

2. AT PRESENT, ARO-SPONSORED PROJECTS ARE NOT PARTICULARLY RELEVANT TO SINGAPORE LABOR'S NEEDS (SEE REF B). ACCORDING TO LEOW PENG KUI, NTUC'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS MAN, NTUC IS "SKEPTICAL" ABOUT THE USEFULNESS OF ICFTU/ARO PROJECTS. LEOW MENTIONED THE ASIAN TRADE UNION COLLEGE IN PARTICULAR. HE SAID NTUC HAS NOT SENT STUDENTS THERE IN PAST THREE OR FOUR YEARS BECAUSE COURSES WERE NOT SUFFICIENTLY ADVANCED AND SPECIALIZED. ALSO, COLLEGE IS NOT REALLY "INTERNATIONAL" SINCE FACULTY IS MOSTLY INDIAN.

3. LEOW MENTIONED THAT RELOCATION OF THE COLLEGE IN KUALA LUMPUR

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OR SINGAPORE WAS UNDER DISCUSSION. THE NTUC IS WILLING TO COOPERATE

WITH RELOCATION TO SINGAPORE, BUT WOULD DEFER TO THE MALAYSIAN
TRADES UNION CONGRESS (MTUC) IF THE MTUC DECIDES TO LOBBY FOR
RELOCATION IN KUALA LUMPUR. CRONK

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Message Attributes

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